

NEPOTISM.—The public will never be made to believe that an appointment of a relative is made on the ground of merit alone, uninfluenced by family views; nor can they ever see with approbation offices the disposal of which they entrust to their Presidents for public purposes divided out as family property. * * * It is true that this places the relatives of the President in a worse situation than if he were a stranger, but the public good which cannot be affected if its confidence be lost requires the sacrifice. Perhaps, too, it is compensated by sharing in the public esteem.

NEWS.—Every one may observe by recollecting that when he has been long absent from his neighborhood the small news of that is the most pleasing and occupies his first attention, either when he meets with a person from thence, or returns thither himself. I shall hope, therefore, that the letter in which you have been so good as to give me the minute occurrences in the neighborhood of Monticello may yet come to hand. (To Archibald Stuart, written from Paris, 1786. F. IV., 187.)

NEWSPAPERS.—At a very early period of my life I determined never to put a sentence into any newspaper. I have religiously adhered to the resolution through my life and have great reason to be contented with it. Were I to undertake to answer the calumnies of the newspapers it would be more than all my time and twenty aids could effect. For, while I should be answering one, twenty new ones would be invented. I have thought it better to trust to the justice of my countrymen that they would judge me by what they see of my conduct on the stage where they have placed me. (To Samuel Smith, 1798. F. VII., 279.)

NEWSPAPERS.—A coalition of sentiments is not for the interests of printers. They, like the clergy, live by the zeal they can kindle and the schemes they can create. It is contest of opinion in politics as well as religion which makes us take great interest in them, and bestow our money liberally on those who furnish aliment to our appetite. The mild and simple principles of Christian philosophy would produce too¹ much calm, too much regularity of good, to extract from its disciples a support for a numerous priesthood, were they not to sophisticate it,